

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION HELD AT CENTRAL OFFICE ON **September 10, 2019**

Board Chair John Lehnrs called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. with the following present:

PRESENT

Trustees Lesley Craig, Lynn Driedger, Paulette Kurylo, John Lehnrs, Rob Martin, Joan Nellis, Andre Ouellette, Superintendent Sandy McDonald, Deputy Superintendent James Robinson, Secretary-Treasurer Norm Guindon and Secretary to the Board Sandy Fredland (minutes).

PRESENTATION

The Board presented the Division's Edwin Parr Nomination, Teacher Daniel Bishop, with a Certificate of Appreciation and congratulated Dan on his accomplishment. Mike Humbke, Principal of Aspen Grove Public School, was also in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Adoption of Board Agenda

The Board reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda.

The Board agreed to the following additions to the agenda:

- Under Business Arising, *Standardized Jurisdiction Names*
- Under Board Chair Report, *Meeting with MLA Tracy Allard*
- Under Board Calendar, *Annual Chamber of Commerce Roundtable Attendees*
- Under Superintendent's Report, *Nutrition Program Update and Seclusion Room Update*
- Under ASBA, *Mental Health Professional Supports Committee Update*
- Superintendent McDonald requested an In-Camera session at the end of the Regular Board Meeting

MOTION: Lynn Driedger moved that the Board adopt the Regular Meeting agenda as amended.

CARRIED 15120

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting of August 20, 2019

The Board reviewed the Regular Board Meeting minutes of August 20, 2019.

MOTION: Rob Martin moved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 20, 2019 as circulated.

CARRIED 15121

Organizational Meeting of August 20, 2019

The Board reviewed the Organizational Meeting minutes of August 20, 2019. A correction was requested regarding page 7127.

MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved to adopt the minutes of the Organizational Meeting of August 20, 2019, as amended.

CARRIED 15122

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BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Board Policy 7, Section 11 Revision Approval

The Board reviewed changes to Board Policy 7, Board Operations, Section 11.1 as discussed at the Board Organizational Meeting of August 20, 2019, and now reads:

11.1 Each Trustee shall be eligible to receive a per diem for meetings held inside or outside the City of Grande Prairie, greater than 3 hours, where the Trustee represents the Board, or elective meetings of ASBA, PSBA or for Trustee upgrading, or otherwise approved by the Board, including travel time, excluding Board meetings.

MOTION: Lesley Craig moved to accept amended Board Policy 7 Section 11.1 as presented.

CARRIED 15123

Standardized Jurisdiction Name

Sandy McDonald explained that there are two aspects to the Division's name: the legal name and the operating (commonly used) name. Administration has started the work needed to have the legal name changed to the Grande Prairie School Division and the Board of Trustees of the Grande Prairie School Division. Following discussion, the Board directed Administration to keep the word "Public" in the operating name, thereby being the Grande Prairie Public School Division, and the Board of Trustees of the Grande Prairie Public School Division.

**BOARD CHAIR/
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Board Chair Report

- The Board discussed the Superintendent's Address and New Staff Orientation that took place on August 29, 2019 at the Composite High School.
- The Board met with MLA Tracy Allard prior to the Regular Board meeting and discussed the Division's priorities and context. An invitation will be sent to Grande Prairie-Wapiti MLA Minister Travis Toews.
- The National School Boards' Association (NSBA) has invited John Lehnert to present the Board's Continuing Improvement Index at the NSBA Conference being held in Chicago in April 2020.
- John Lehnert will be attending an urgent Alberta School Boards' Association, Alberta Education and Board Chairs' meeting on September 12, 2019.

Superintendent's Report

Items for Information

Sandy McDonald provided to the Board information regarding the following:

- Startup and Enrollment Update

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Startup for the 2019 – 2020 School Year was reported as being quite smooth with the impact of the new online registration system decreasing the usual walk-in registrations for the first day of school. As of the end of day 2, enrolment was slightly over projected numbers.

- **Division Strategic Plan Update**
A draft Division Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 was presented to the Board as information. Division Administration will be working with School Administrators to seek feedback and affirm the content of the plan throughout the year.
- **2018 – 2019 Satisfaction Survey Results**
A report was provided to Trustees summarizing the 2018 – 2019 Staff and Parent Survey results. Results reflect continued improvement. A complete report will be brought to the Board at a future Board meeting.
- **Alberta Education Field Services Manager Meeting**
The Central Office Leadership Team met with Cathy Rasmussen, the Division's Alberta Education Liaison, on August 21, 2019. The updated Educational Strategic Plan was discussed, and the meeting was reported as being positive.
- **Alberta Education Meeting: Assurance and Funding Review**
Assistant Deputy Minister Gene Williams and members of his team are conducting a review of Assurance and Funding in Alberta, and will be meeting with Sandy McDonald, Norm Guindon and James Robinson on September 17, 2019.
- **Minister Josephine Pon and Minister Travis Toews Visit to Alexander Forbes School**
The Minister of Seniors and Housing, Josephine Pon, and Minister of Finance Travis Toews will be visiting Alexander Forbes School on September 16, 2019 to observe Elder Darlene Cardinal's classroom and participate in a drumming circle with Grade 4 students.
- **Education Act Regulations Updates**
Copies of the new Education Act have been distributed to Trustees. The Act and all up to date Regulations and Ministerial Orders are available online at <https://www.alberta.ca/K-12-education-legislation-and-regulations.aspx>.
- **Mental Health Capacity Building Project**
Sandy McDonald reported that a Program Manager has been hired for the Mental Health Capacity Building Project. The three participating school divisions are currently advertising and hiring their own staff. The

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focus of the work is building the capacity of teachers in Grades 7 – 12 to support student mental health using the Mental Health Literacy model and work of Stan Kutcher.

- **Class 1 Driver Training Update**
As requested at the last Board Meeting, Sandy McDonald provided an update regarding the potential of offering high school students access to Class 1 Driver's Training. This cannot be offered as it is not a dual credit opportunity and is currently offered through the Continuing Education program at the Grande Prairie Regional College.
- **Board Work Plan 2019 2020**
Sandy McDonald met with the Board Chair and Vice-Chair on August 28, 2019 to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation process and the upcoming Board Retreat. A more detailed Board Work Plan and schedule of reports to the Board for the year will be presented at the next Board meeting. A date for the Board Retreat and Superintendent's Evaluation has been set for Friday, November 29, 2019.
- **CASS Board of Directors Meeting – September 5 – 6, 2019**
Sandy McDonald attended the CASS (College of Alberta School Superintendents) Board meeting in Nisku, AB on September 5 and 6, 2019.
- **Nutrition Program Update**
Sandy McDonald reported that the Minister of Education has announced maintained funding for the School Nutrition Program for the 2019 2020 School Year.
- **Seclusion room update**
Sandy McDonald reported to the Board that a summary will be provided to Principals in regard to Seclusion Room use in the Division. Most importantly is the affirmation of restraint, timeout and seclusion as a last resort strategy. Principals can share the information out to School Councils.

BOARD POLICY REVIEW

Board Policy Review Committee

Joan Nellis reported to the Board that the Board Policy Review Committee will be meeting on September 24, 2019 to build a policy review workplan that will be brought back to the Trustees.

CULTURE AND ENGAGEMENT

No report.

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BUSINESS SERVICES

No report.

ASBA / PSBAA

Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA)

- Possible Zone 1 Student Headstrong Youth Mental Health Summit
Lori Leitch, Trustee for the Peace River School Division, has requested Trustee consideration of exploring the possibility of hosting a Zone 1 Headstrong Youth Summit. Following discussion, the Board was not in favour of the concept as it is not financially prudent, and the purpose is not clearly defined.
- Mental Health Professional Supports Committee Update
Trustee Lynn Driedger reported to the Board that the ASBA Zone 1 Mental Health Professional Supports Committee encountered difficulty in finding time to meet. However, the Northern Alberta Development Council has invited Trustee Driedger and the Manager of Regional Collaborative Service Delivery, Cheryl Brown, to submit a presentation to receive funding assistance in finding ways of tracking student mental health requests.

ALBERTA EDUCATION

Ministerial Approval of Superintendent's Contract

John Lehnert reported that the Board received Ministerial Approval for the reappointment of Mr. Alexander (Sandy) McDonald as Superintendent of Schools effective September 1, 2019 to July 31, 2024.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

School Council Year-End Reports 2018 – 2019

The Board received as information a year-end report for the 2018 – 2019 School Year from Riverstone Public School Council.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Chamber of Commerce Round Table

The Annual Chamber of Commerce Round Table discussion is being held on September 13, 2019 from 1:30 to 3:30 at Centre 2000. Vice-Chair Joan Nellis and Secretary-Treasurer Norm Guindon will attend on behalf of the Board.

Upcoming Professional Development/Meetings

The Board of Trustees reviewed the upcoming professional development meeting bulletin for Trustees.

Board Calendar

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is Tuesday, September 24, 2019 to be held in the Central Office Board Room.

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CORRESPONDENCE • Letter from Jennifer Tuininga, Chair of Pembina Hills Public Schools, re: Update on Teleconference August 26, 2019; September 4, 2019

NEW IDEAS / NEW ISSUES Rob Martin requested information regarding the Nutrition Program and when it will be up and running in Division Schools. Sandy McDonald advised that once the funding is provided, the programs will be running again.

IN-CAMERA SESSION **MOTION:** Joan Nellis moved that the Board go in-camera at 7:32 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel.

CARRIED 15124

MOTION: Rob Martin moved that the Board come out of in-camera at 7:50 p.m.

CARRIED 15125

ADJOURNMENT John Lehnars called the Regular Board Meeting closed at 7:51p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer